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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/798,007	03/10/2004	Steven Shafer	307217.01	6088
22971	7590	08/25/2010	EXAMINER	
MICROSOFT CORPORATION ONE MICROSOFT WAY REDMOND, WA 98052-6399				ALMATRAHI, FARIS S
3627		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
08/25/2010		ELECTRONIC		

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>
	10/798,007	SHAFER, STEVEN
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>
	FARIS ALMATRAHI	3627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 July 2010.  
 2a) This action is **FINAL**.                    2b) This action is non-final.  
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-12 and 14-44 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s) 2-12 and 17-33 is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
 6) Claim(s) 1,14-16 and 34-44 is/are rejected.  
 7) Claim(s) 44 is/are objected to.  
 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:  
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Status of the Application***

1. This action is in reply to applicant communication filed July 23, 2010.
2. Claims 1, 14-16, 34-38 and 40-41 have been amended.
3. Claim 13 has been cancelled.
4. Claims 43 and 44 are new.
5. Claims 2-12 and 17-33 are withdrawn.
6. Claims 1-12 and 14-44 are pending in this application.

### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

7. The information disclosure statement filed June 30, 2010 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(1), which requires the following: (1) a list of all patents, publications, applications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office; (2) U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications listed in a section separately from citations of other documents; (3) the application number of the application in which the information disclosure statement is being submitted on each page of the list; (4) a column that provides a blank space next to each document to be considered, for the examiner's initials; and (5) a heading that clearly indicates that the list is an information disclosure statement. The information disclosure statement has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.

### ***Claim Objections***

8. **Claim 44** is objected to because of the following informalities: Claim 44 recites the limitation "storing global routing prefix in a database". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. It is unclear if the recited "global routing prefix" in Claim 44 is different from that of the recited "a global routing prefix" in Claim 41. Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. **Claims 1, 14 and 16** are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lane et al. (US Publication No. 2005/0137904 A1) in view of Ramamurthy et al. (US Publication No. 2005/0104719 A1).

11. Regarding Claim 1, Lane shows a method of asset management comprising sending an identification query to an asset identification tag (Abstract); receiving, from the asset identification tag, an asset identifier (Abstract, Paragraph [0082]); determining a uniform resource locator for a selected asset lookup service (Figure 8, Paragraph [0082]); and based on the uniform resource locator sending the received asset identifier

to the selected asset lookup service, wherein the method is implemented by a processor operating with a computer readable medium (Figure 8, Paragraph [0082]).

12. Lane does not explicitly specify the asset identification tag having a global routing prefix on an Internet Protocol address stored therein.

13. However, Ramamurthy teaches the asset identification tag having a global routing prefix on an Internet Protocol address stored therein (Paragraph [0029]).

14. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the teachings of Ramamurthy in the Lane reference to include the asset identification tag having a global routing prefix on an Internet Protocol address stored therein in order to improve formatting compatibility (Ramamurthy, [0006]).

15. Regarding Claim 14, Lane shows a method comprising sending identification data to a predetermined resource service, and receiving the uniform resource locator for the selected asset lookup service (Figure 8, Paragraph [0082]).

16. Lane does not explicitly specify the asset identification data to be a global routing prefix.

17. However, Ramamurthy teaches the asset identification data having a global routing prefix (Paragraph [0029]).

18. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the teachings of Ramamurthy in the Lane reference to include a global routing prefix in order to improve formatting compatibility and data retrieval (Ramamurthy, [0006]).

19. Regarding Claim 16, Lane shows a method comprising sending asset property information to the selected asset lookup service (Paragraph [0082]).

20. **Claims 15, 34-42 and 44** are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lane et al. (US Publication No. 2005/0137904 A1) in view of Ramamurthy et al. (US Publication No. 2005/0104719 A1) and Hiranaka et al. (NPL in 03/30/2006 IDS).

21. Regarding Claim 15, Lane does not explicitly specify formatting the uniform resource locator from the global routing prefix and a predetermined uniform asset lookup service suffix.

22. However, Hiranaka teaches formatting the uniform resource locator from the global routing prefix and a predetermined uniform asset lookup service suffix (Figure 5, Page 3 section 3.5).

23. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Lane and Ramamurthy with that of Hiranaka to include formatting the uniform resource locator from the global routing prefix and a predetermined uniform asset lookup service suffix in order to improve formatting compatibility and addressing space.

24. Regarding Claims 34, 37 and 41-42, Lane shows a method of asset management comprising sending an identification query to an asset identification tag (Abstract); receiving, from the asset identification tag, an asset identifier indicating at least one of: an asset model descriptor, a unique asset serial number, an asset physical

location, an asset age descriptor, or an asset environment descriptor (Abstract, Paragraphs [0018], [0082]); determining a uniform resource locator for a selected asset lookup service (Figure 8, Paragraph [0082]); and based on the uniform resource locator sending the received asset identifier to the selected asset lookup service, wherein the method is implemented by a processor operating with a computer readable medium (Figure 8, Paragraph [0082]).

25. Lane does not explicitly specify the asset identification tag having a global routing prefix on an Internet Protocol address stored therein; and determining a uniform resource locator for a selected asset lookup service by appending a predetermined uniform asset lookup service suffix to the received global routing prefix.

26. Ramamurthy teaches the asset identification tag having a global routing prefix on an Internet Protocol address stored therein (Paragraph [0029]).

27. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the teachings of Ramamurthy in the Lane reference to include the asset identification tag having a global routing prefix on an Internet Protocol address stored therein in order to improve formatting compatibility and data retrieval (Ramamurthy, [0006]).

28. Hiranaka teaches appending a predetermined uniform asset lookup service suffix to the received global routing prefix (Page 3 section 3).

29. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Lane and Ramamurthy with that of Hiranaka to include determining a uniform resource locator for a selected asset

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lookup service by appending a predetermined uniform asset lookup service suffix to the received global routing prefix in order to improve formatting compatibility and addressing space.

30. Regarding Claim 35, Lane does not explicitly specify receiving predetermined fixed data representing a tag index compliant with an Internet Protocol address format.

31. However, Hiranaka teaches receiving predetermined fixed data representing a tag index compliant with an Internet Protocol address format (Figure 4, Page 3).

32. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Lane and Ramamurthy with that of Hiranaka to include receiving predetermined fixed data representing a tag index compliant with an Internet Protocol address format in order to improve formatting compatibility and addressing space.

33. Regarding Claim 36, Lane does not explicitly specify the global routing prefix, the asset identifier, and the predetermined fixed data representing the tag index are compliant with an Internet Protocol version 6 address format.

34. However, Hiranaka teaches receiving predetermined fixed data representing a tag index compliant with an Internet Protocol address format (Figure 4, Page 3).

35. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Lane and Ramamurthy with that of Hiranaka to include receiving predetermined fixed data representing a tag index compliant with an Internet Protocol address format in order to improve formatting compatibility and addressing space.

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36. Regarding Claim 38, Lane shows a method comprising sending identification data to a predetermined resource service, and receiving the uniform resource locator from an asset lookup service (Figure 8, Paragraph [0082]).

37. Lane does not explicitly specify the asset identification data to be a global routing prefix.

38. However, Ramamurthy teaches the asset identification data having a global routing prefix (Paragraph [0029]).

39. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the teachings of Ramamurthy in the Lane reference to include a global routing prefix in order to improve formatting compatibility and data retrieval (Ramamurthy, [0006]).

40. Regarding Claim 39, Lane shows a method wherein sending an identification query includes transmitting a modulated data signal over a frequency communication channel (Paragraph [0088]).

41. Regarding Claim 40, Lane shows a method comprising sending at least one of the asset physical location and the asset environment descriptor to an asset lookup service for storage (Paragraphs [0059], [0063]).

42. Regarding Claim 44, Lane shows a method comprising storing identification data in a database (Paragraph [0063]), the database associating the identification data with: an asset identifier, a serial number associated with the asset, a model of the asset, a manufacturer of the asset, an expiration date of the asset, a weight of the asset, a color

of the asset, or a location associated with the asset (Abstract, Paragraphs [0018], [0048], [0059]).

43. Lane does not explicitly specify the asset identification data to be a global routing prefix.

44. However, Ramamurthy teaches the asset identification data having a global routing prefix (Paragraph [0029]).

45. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the teachings of Ramamurthy in the Lane reference to include a global routing prefix in order to improve formatting compatibility and data retrieval (Ramamurthy, [0006]).

46. **Claim 43** is rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lane et al. (US Publication No. 2005/0137904 A1) in view of Ramamurthy et al. (US Publication No. 2005/0104719 A1), Hiranaka et al. (NPL in 03/30/2006 IDS) and further in view of official notice.

47. Regarding Claim 43, Lane shows a method comprising storing identification data in a database (Paragraph [0063]), the database associating the identification data with: an asset identifier (Abstract); a serial number associated with the asset (Paragraph [0018]); an expiration date of the asset (Paragraph [0048]); and a location associated with the asset (Paragraph [0059]).

48. Lane does not explicitly specify the asset identification data to be a global routing prefix; and does not specify associating the global routing prefix with a model of the asset, a manufacturer of the asset, a weight of the asset, and a color of the asset.

49. Ramamurthy teaches the asset identification data having a global routing prefix (Paragraph [0029]).

50. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the teachings of Ramamurthy in the Lane reference to include a global routing prefix in order to improve formatting compatibility (Ramamurthy, [0006]).

51. Examiner takes official notice that associating the global routing prefix with a model of the asset, a manufacturer of the asset, a weight of the asset, and a color of the asset is old and well known in the art at the time the invention was made.

52. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further include associating an asset with additional item descriptors such as a model of the asset, a manufacturer of the asset, a weight of the asset, and a color of the asset in order to achieve better asset identification.

### **Response to Arguments**

53. Applicant's arguments filed on July 23, 2010 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Faris Almatrahi whose telephone number is (571) 270-3326. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ryan Zeender can be reached on (571) 272-6790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Faris Almatrahi/  
Examiner, Art Unit 3627

FA